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BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN



THE  
ANNUAL REPORTS  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE  
Chief Sanitary Inspector  
(L. A. CRABTREE, C.R.SAN.I.)

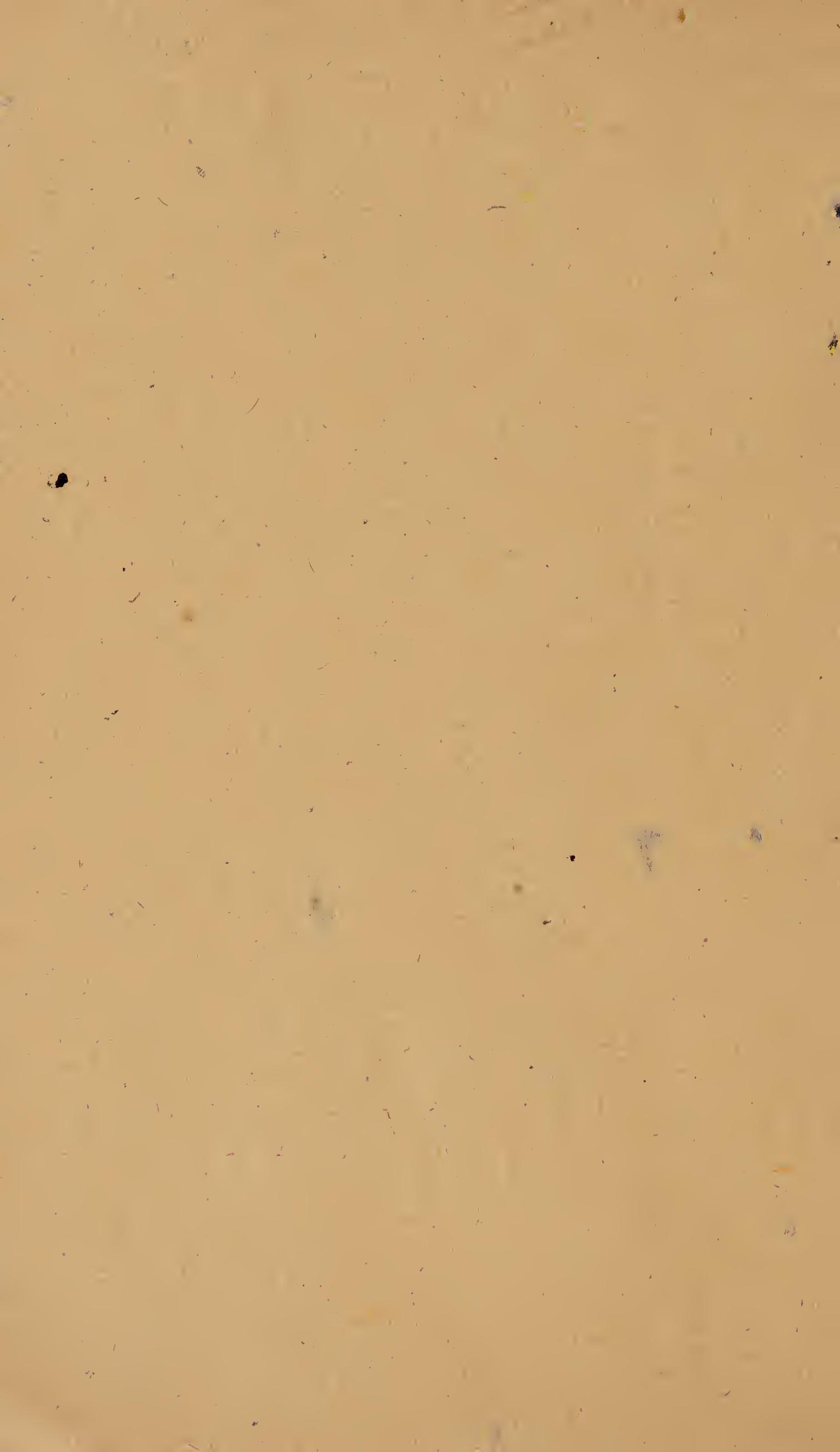
AND THE

School Medical Officer

1943

A. J. MUIR, M.B., CH.B., B.HY., D.P.H.

John Bentley & Sons, Printers, etc., Todmorden.



The Abraham Ormerod Medical Centre,  
Todmorden,  
August, 1944.

*His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors—*

GENTLEMEN—

I have pleasure in presenting my Report for 1943.

During the year there were 160 cases of scarlet fever notified—this being the highest number for very many years. Fortunately the disease was very mild. Scarlet fever was very prevalent in the Calder Valley area and this epidemic was the cause of the local Fever Hospital having its busiest year since it opened half-a-century ago.

Measles was also epidemic during the year, there being 248 notified cases.

During the year 1943, 408 children completed the course of immunisation and at the end of the year it was estimated that 90% in the 5-15 age group and 66% in the 1½-5 age group had been immunised. This high immunisation rate may have a lot to do with the fact that in the last two years only one Todmorden child has been admitted to hospital with diphtheria. Your attention is drawn to the table on page 20. Perusal of this will, I am sure, convince the die-hards that there is, to say the least, "something in immunisation."

Scabies was again very prevalent, but adequate steps were taken to cope with it.

Illness and shortage of staff handicapped the Health Visitors so that the volume of work was somewhat curtailed. A special need of praise is due to them for the way they carried on in spite of all difficulties.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Council for their interest and help and also my staff for their loyal co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. J. MUIR,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## SECTION I.

### VITAL STATISTICS

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#### **STATISTICS.**

Area. 12,790 acres.

Population—Census 1931. 22,222 persons.

Registrar General's estimate of  
Resident Population, mid. 1943, 17,960.

Number of dwelling-houses, 7,094.

Rateable value £113,886.

Product of a penny rate £443.

Rainfall at Gorpley Reservoir during 1943, 57.26 inches

#### **Summary of Vital Statistics.**

	Total	M	F	
Live Births— Legitimate Illegitimate	245 13	129 4	116 9	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated res- ident population 14.4
Still Births	14	11	3	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 51.5.
Deaths	324	152	172	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 18.0.

## DEATHS FROM PUPERAL CAUSES—

	Deaths	Death Rate per 1000 total (live and still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis ...	nil	...
Other Puerperal Causes	1	... 3.67

## DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE—

All infants per 1000 live births ... ... ...	70
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births...	65
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	154

## DEATHS FROM Cancer (all ages) ... ... ... ... 34

Measles (all ages) ... ... ...	0
Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ... ...	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ...	0

## Tuberculosis Death Rate (all cases) .. .. 0.56

## Respiratory Tuberculosis death rate .. .. 0.39

## Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis death rate 0.17

## Respiratory Death Rate (excluding tuberculosis) 2.40

### CAUSES OF DEATH IN TODMORDEN, M.B.

Causes of Death	1942		1943	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
All Causes .. .. ..	129	145	152	172
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever — — .. —				
2 Measles .. .. .. — — .. —				
3 Scarlet Fever .. .. .. — — 1 .. —				
4 Whooping Cough .. .. .. — — .. 1 —				
5 Diphtheria .. .. .. — — 1 .. —				
6 Influenza .. .. .. 1 2 .. 7 7				
7 Encephalitis Lethargica .. — — .. —				
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever .. — — 1 .. —				
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system .. .. .. 3 6 .. 4 3				
10 Other Tuberculous diseases .. 1 1 .. 1 2				
11 Syphilis .. .. .. 2 — .. 1 1				
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis — — .. —				
13 Cancer, malignant disease .. 13 22 .. 20 14				
14 Diabetes .. .. .. 3 7 .. 1 1				
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. .. 16 18 .. 31 26				
16 Heart Disease .. .. .. 27 29 .. 26 42				
17 Aneurysm .. .. .. — — .. —				
18 Other circulatory diseases .. 10 6 .. 8 9				
19 Bronchitis .. .. .. 12 9 .. 9 16				
20 Pneumonia (all forms) .. — — 2 .. 8 5				
21 Other respiratory diseases .. — — 1 .. 1 4				
22 Peptic ulcer .. .. .. 4 — .. 3 —				
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) — — .. —				
24 Appendicitis .. .. .. 1 1 .. — 1				
25 Cirrhosis of liver .. .. .. — — .. —				
26 Acute infantile encephalitis .. — — .. 1 —				
27 Other digestive diseases .. 2 2 .. 2 5				
28 Acute and chronic nephritis .. 10 12 .. 7 5				
29 Puerperal sepsis .. .. .. — — .. —				
30 Other puerperal causes .. — — 1 .. — 1				
31 Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth .. 3 4 .. 4 7				
32 Senility .. .. .. — — .. —				
33 Suicide .. .. .. — 2 .. 1 3				
34 Other deaths from violence .. 8 3 .. 6 5				
35 Other defined diseases .. 13 14 .. 10 15				
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown — — .. —				

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1943.

	Rate per 1000 total population	Annual Death Rate per 1000 Population.								Rate per 1000 Live Births
		All Causes	Still Births	Live Births	Smallpox	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	
England and Wales	... 16.5	0.51	12.1	0.00	—	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.37	5.3 49
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	... 18.6	0.63	14.2	0.00	—	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.4	... ...
148 Smaller Towns (estimated resident populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census, 1931)	... 19.4	0.61	12.7	0.00	—	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.37	4.4 46
TODMORDEN	... 14.4	0.77	18.0	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.77 70
									Puerperal Sepsis	Other Total
The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales									0.73 ...	1.56 ... 2.29
The Maternal Mortality Rates for TODMORDEN									— ... 3.67	... 3.67 ... 3.67
The Maternal Mortality Rates for Todmorden (per 1000 Total Births)										(per 1000 Total Births)

## SECTION II.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

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#### **A. HOSPITALS.**

The Hospital facilities are as described in previous reports.

#### **B. PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.**

This is undertaken by the Local Nursing Association.

#### **C. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

The facilities provided are ample for the needs of the Borough.

Two ambulances are used for general, and one for infectious cases.

#### **D. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.**

Are as described in previous Reports.

#### **E. LABORATORY FACILITIES.**

These are provided by the West Riding County Council at a central laboratory at Wakefield. The following table gives particulars of the specimens sent to the County Laboratory from Todmorden during 1943.

Blood Films for Cytological Examination .. ..	2
Sputum for Tubercl Bacilli .. ..	22
Swabs for B. Diphtheriae .. ..	30
Uries and Faeces for B.typhosus, etc. .. ..	4
Waters for Bacteriological examination .. ..	47
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci .. ..	1
Blood sera for Widal reaction .. ..	2
Milk for Methylene Blue .. ..	78
Milk for Tubercl Bacilli .. ..	35
 Total .. .. .. ..	 221

#### F. ISSUE OF ANTI-TOXIN, Etc.

A supply of diphtheria anti-toxin is kept at the Health Department, Ridgefoot, for the use of medical practitioners practising in the area. During 1943 some 72,000 units of diphtheria anti-toxin were supplied free of charge.

A small stock of tetanus anti-toxin is also kept for use in the school clinic.

No applications were received from general medical practitioners, under Section 177 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for a free supply of insulin for necessitous patients not being treated under the National Health Insurance Act.

Immunising reagents such as Alum Precipitated Toxoid are available free of charge to private practitioners who wish to undertake the immunisation of their patients.

## SECTION III.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

#### A. Ante-Natal Services—

During 1943 Dr. Thierens held 100 sessions and 201 patients made 1124 attendances. The popularity of the clinic is shown in the table below:—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Number of patients	118	136	150	177	208	201
No. of attendances	591	683	741	889	1258	1124
No. of sessions held	49	65	58	78	98	100
Patients sent by Midwives	27	45	55	39	33	29
Patients sent by Doctors	—	6	8	9	8	7
Patients sent by Health Visitors	figures not easily	42	31	49	54	32
Patients attended on own initiative		40	49	74	110	129
Patients sent by Hospitals	available	3	7	6	3	4
Patients referred to own doctor		10	8	3	9	12
Patients referred to Hospital	9	33	27	13	16	14
Patients referred to Dentist	20	17	18	31	46	35
Patients given sun- light treatment	4	9	4	12	19	19

#### Consultant Ante-Natal Clinic.

Cases may be referred from the Authority's Clinic to the Consultant Ante-Natal Clinic at Halifax General Hospital where facilities are available for X-ray examination if such is found to be necessary. X-ray examination of ante-natal patients is also carried out at Sowerby Bridge County Medical Centre by courtesy of the County Council. During 1943 ten women were X-rayed under this scheme.

## B. Midwifery Services.

Todmorden Borough Council have an agreement with Halifax Corporation for the treatment of maternity cases, both normal and abnormal. Having regard to the financial hardship caused when women were retained in hospital for several weeks beyond the normal period of confinement, the Council decided at their meeting in June, 1943, to ask patients to pay the cost of only 14 days in hospital, the cost of any excess period to be remitted. Accordingly assessment is made under the existing scale for a maximum period of 14 days only. During 1943 31 cases were sent to Halifax General Hospital at a cost of £370 12s. 0d., of which £148 2s. 10d. was recovered from the patients in accordance with the income scale which came into force on June 1st, 1940, and which has been explained in detail in the report of 1940.

## Consultant Obstetrician.

The services of Mr. B. L. Jeaffreson, M.D., F.R.C.S., of the Leeds Maternity Hospital are available for difficult obstetric cases occurring in private practice in the town. During 1943 there was no call on Mr. Jeaffreson's services.

## Emergency Obstetric Unit.

The Emergency Unit attached to the Leeds Maternity Hospital is available for any cases which require it. The fee per visit is six guineas to which is added a mileage charge.

The Emergency Unit attached to the Halifax General Hospital was made available free of charge in April, 1941. This Unit was not called upon during the year.

## Midwives.

The County Council is the local Supervising Authority and it reimburses the Local Authority for the net cost of the service. The bulk of the domiciliary midwifery in the town is carried out by the Municipal Midwife (Nurse Mills), whose fees are collected by the Local Authority, and two midwives employed by the Todmorden and District Nursing Association. The West Riding County Council makes an annual grant to the local Nursing Association for the services of its two midwives. The patient pays a fee of £1 10s. 0d. when the nurse acts as midwife and a fee of £1 when the nurse acts as a maternity nurse: in the latter case a doctor is also in attendance.

During 1943 the practising midwives summoned medical assistance to 45 mothers and 8 infants.

The following table summarises the midwifery work of the district midwives for the year 1943 :—

Work done within the Borough	Midwvs. empld. by Tod. & Dist. Nursing Assoc.	Municipal Midwife	Total
No. of deliveries made by Midwives	58	52	110
No. of difficult cases met with by midwives where a doctor had to be sent for and who (a) Effectuated delivery (b) Sent patient to Hospital	5 —	5 3	10 3
No. of cases where midwives acted as a maternity nurse	—	9	9
Medical aid sent for in case of (a) mothers (b) infants	22 4	23 4	45 8

The following table shows the number of women confined in hospital or delivered by midwives and private practitioners :—

	No.	%
No. delivered in hospital ..	136	51
No. delivered by midwives ..	110	41
No. delivered by doctors (including the 9 difficult cases met with by midwives in their private practice where a doctor had to be sent for to effect delivery) ..	21	8
<b>TOTAL (including stillbirths)</b> ..	<b>267</b>	<b>100</b>

### **Home Helps.**

It is very seldom that a mother asks for the services of a Home Help. When one is desired an attempt is made to secure one but there is usually great difficulty in obtaining a suitable person. The Home Help is paid at the rate of 1/- per hour.

### **Sterilized Maternity Outfits.**

These are available to expectant mothers at a reduced cost (4/10) and can be bought from the Municipal Midwife or from the Clinic.

### **Maternal Mortality.**

In 1943 there was one death from puerperal causes in Todmorden. The following table gives the number of maternal deaths in Todmorden and England and Wales for the past ten years :—

Year	TODMORDEN			ENGLAND & WALES
	Deaths from :		Rate per 1000 births	Rate per 1000 births
	Puerperal Sepsis	Other Puerperal Causes		
1934	—	—	0.00	4.41
1935	—	1	4.52	3.93
1936	—	—	0.00	3.65
1937	—	2	8.23	3.11
1938	—	1	4.38	2.97
1939	—	—	0.00	2.82
1940	—	—	0.00	2.16
1941	—	—	0.00	2.23
1942	—	1	4.01	2.01
1943	—	1	3.67	2.29

### **Maternity and Nursing Homes.**

There are none in the Borough.

### Post Natal and Gynaecological Clinics.

Gynaecological and Post-Natal patients are examined at the ordinary ante-natal clinic. During 1943, 85 patients made 95 attendances at the clinic. Some of the patients confined in Halifax General Hospital attended there for post-natal examination.

YEAR.	1940	1941	1942	1943
No. of post-natal patients ..	59	110	78	85
No. of attendances ..	67	118	81	95

### C. CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

#### Infantile Mortality.

Eighteen infants under the age of twelve months died during 1943, giving an infantile mortality rate of 70 per 1000 births.

Total number of neo-natal deaths (1-4 weeks)—10.

Total number of infant deaths under 1 year—18.

There were 18 deaths of infants under one year; of these 10 died in the first month. The neo-natal deaths were made up as follows:—

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	2
Spina Bifida	...	...	...	...	2
Intracranial haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital haemolytic anaemia	...	...	...	...	1
Atalectasis	...	...	...	...	1
Pyaemia	...	...	...	...	1
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia	...	...	...	...	1

The deaths in the first year excluding those given above were due to—

Broncho pneumonia	...	...	...	3
Congenital heart disease	...	...	...	2
Accidental asphyxia	...	...	...	1
Pleurisy	...	...	...	1
Meningitis	...	...	...	1

The infantile mortality rate is much higher than the average for England and Wales, but in a small town wide differences may occur from year to year. For example in 1939 the infantile mortality rate was the very low figure of 10 per thousand.

### Still births.

During the year there were fourteen still births.

### Sunlight Clinic.

This was held twice weekly at the Medical Centre during the winter months. A Sollux Mercury Vapour Lamp was used. 59 children not attending school made 988 treatment sessions.

### Orthopaedic Clinic.

The Local Authority have an agreement with the Rochdale Crippled Children's Union for the treatment of orthopaedic cases at the Bamford Memorial Home. An out-patient clinic was held in the Smith Street Clinic, Rochdale, every Monday afternoon. During 1943 some 3 children made 4 attendances at the Clinic.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

During 1943 some 234 children, not in school attendance, attended for immunisation against diphtheria.

### Minor Ailments Clinic.

During 1943 some 70 children, not in school attendance, made 141 attendances for treatment at the Medical Centre.

### Infant Welfare Clinics.

Clinics were held at the Abraham Ormerod Medical Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, and at Cornholme Y.M.C.A. and Walsden School House on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons respectively. A record of the work done in 1943 is given in the following table:—

	Medical Centre	Wals- den	Corn- holme	Total
No. of sessions ..	103	51	52	206
No. of children who attended :—				
(a) Under 1 year old	222	56	56	334
(b) 1-5 years of age	149	45	41	235
No. of attendances by children :—				
(a) Under 1 year ..	2164	514	787	3465
(b) 1-5 years ..	971	438	535	1944
Total attendances	3135	952	1322	5409
Average attendance per session ..	30	19	25	26

### Dental Clinic.

During the year six Dental Clinics were held by Mr. Gibson, and 40 patients had extractions under general anaesthesia (gas and oxygen), the gas being administered by your Medical Officer. The patients were assessed to pay for artificial dentures which were supplied by a private firm in accordance with an income scale. During 1943 20 nursing and expectant mothers were fitted with dentures. This branch of the dental service is self-supporting.

The following table gives a record of the work done:—

Number .. .. ..	46
Total Attendances .. .. ..	73
Number of Sessions .. .. ..	6
Permanent Teeth extracted .. .. ..	178
Permanent Teeth filled .. .. ..	5
Temporary Teeth extracted .. .. ..	24
Temporary Teeth filled .. .. ..	5
No. of patients given a general anaesthetic .. .. ..	40
Dentures supplied—Complete .. .. ..	19
Partial .. .. ..	1

### Ophthalmic and Aural Clinics.

Any child under five years of age suffering from eye, ear, or nose and throat defects may be referred to Dr. Greatorex, the Council's Consultant. During 1943, 3 children under school age were referred to him for consultation.

### Operative Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids.

Thirteen children were sent to Burnley Municipal Hospital for the operative treatment of tonsils and adenoids.

### Provision of Milk, Cod Liver Oil, etc.

During 1943, National Dried Milk was supplied in accordance with the Government's Milk Scheme. 514 packets were supplied free of charge and 2599 packets were sold at 1s. 2d. each during the year. Each packet contained 20 ozs. dried milk.

A supply of cod liver oil was available at the various Child Welfare Clinics. At the ante-natal clinic tablets containing iron, calcium, and vitamin D were available, and in suitable cases Fertilol, ferrous sulphate, and calcium tablets were given.

The distribution of cod liver oil and fruit juices was carried out at the respective clinics under the supervision of the Ministry of Food during the year, over 80% of the child population under five years of age taking advantage of the scheme.

### Child Life Protection.

A register is kept in the Public Health Department as required by the Infant Life Protection Act, 1908, as amended by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, of all persons resident in the Borough who receive children for reward together with the names of the children concerned. There was one child on the register during 1943.

### Cleanliness.

Infestation by head lice presents no great problem in Todmorden. This is apparent when the results of the school surveys are considered. Child admissions to the local fever hospital show a very low infestation rate compared with other areas. Lethane Hair Oil had been used locally before its use was suggested in Circular 2831 of the Ministry of Health. It was found to be of great value in some chronically infested families.

Home visiting was curtailed in 1943 owing to shortage of staff, the Health Visitors having to concentrate on essential work.

### Home Visiting of Health Visitors.

Home visiting is an essential part of a Health Visitor's duties. In the course of a year a large number of visits are paid and for a variety of reasons as can be seen from the following table:—

No. OF ANTE-NATAL VISITS :—				
First Visits .. .	..	..	..	114
Subsequent Visits ..	..	..	..	107
No. OF VISITS TO CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR				
First Visits ..	..	..	..	203
Subsequent Visits ..	..	..	..	637
No. OF VISITS TO CHILDREN 1-5 YEARS ..				1149
No. OF VISITS IN CONNECTION WITH :—				
Infectious Disease ..	..	..	..	32
Housing ..	..	..	..	46
Special Visits ..	..	..	..	28
Stillbirths ..	..	..	..	12
TOTAL HOME VISITS ..				2328

**Voluntary Helpers.**

The following ladies assisted in the work of the Infant Welfare Clinics and their help was greatly appreciated :—

**RIDGEFOOT :—**

Mrs. Crossley, Mrs. Ratcliffe, Mrs. Baxter, Mrs. Hargreaves.

**VALE :—**

Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Hodgson.

**WALSDEN :—**

Mrs. Fielden, Mrs. Law, Mrs. Nightingale.

## SECTION IV.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

- (a) NOTIFIABLE DISEASES—NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED
- (b) VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.
- (c) IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.
- (d) SCABIES.
- (e) FIELDEN JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL—ANNUAL REPORT.
- (f) SOURHALL JOINT SMALLPOX HOSPITAL.

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#### **Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Disease.**

##### **(a) Notifiable Diseases.**

The table on page 19 gives the number of cases notified during the year.

##### **(b) Vaccination against Smallpox.**

Of the 256 children born alive in 1943 only 13 (5 per cent) were vaccinated against smallpox.

##### **(c) Immunisation against Diphtheria.**

The antigen used was Alum Precipitated Toxoid. The first dose was 0.2 c.c. and the second, 0.5 c.c., was given a month later. Three months later a Schick test was done and positive reactors were given a further dose of 0.5 c.c.

The table on page 20 shows the number and the age groups of the children who completed the course of immunisation during the year 1943 and in the preceding years.

##### **(d) Scabies.**

This disease was again very prevalent during the year, there being 298 cases. The treatment given at the clinic was very efficient and expeditious. In nearly every case only one treatment was sufficient.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TABLE FOR 1943.

DISEASE.	Total Cases No'fid.	1943										1942			
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over	1943	1942
Small pox .....	161	...	2	7	10	11	72	39	9	8	2	1	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid and Para-typhoid .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever .....	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	31	4	1	3	...	1	2	1	...	4	4	7	4	1	1
Pneumonia .....	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...
Erysipelas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	248	8	25	28	44	52	89	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Measles .....	113	4	14	20	18	19	33	3	1	...	2	1	6	...	...
Whooping Cough .....	11	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	1	6	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis .....															
	582	16	42	59	72	83	199	47	13	22	9	15	5		

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1943.

Scabies is a household disease and it is often necessary to treat all the members of the family. It cannot be treated effectively by simply prescribing a box of sulphur ointment and expecting the patient to use it intelligently. In any case it is a messy procedure; underclothing and bedding are soiled with the greasy ointment. It is much more satisfactory to have the treatment carried out by a trained person at the clinic—the whole procedure lasts only half-an-hour and the cure is practically certain. Benzyl Benzoate emulsion is the substance used.

#### (e) Fielden Joint Isolation Hospital.

This is a fever hospital serving Todmorden Borough, Hebden Royd U.D., Hepton Rural Districts and Sowerby Bridge Urban District, the latter by agreement. There are 56 beds, the staff comprising Matron, Sister, Staff Nurse and 7 Probationers. The hospital was very busy during the year—291 patients being admitted. This is the highest number admitted for over 30 years. The table below shews the districts from which these patients came and the diseases from which they suffered.

#### Scarlet Fever.

There were 265 cases admitted. The disease was very mild in the great majority of cases. Only the severe cases had serum, the dose given in every case was 10,000 units A.S.S. The main complications were otorrhoea (10 cases), quinsy (3 cases) and arthritis (3 cases). There was no death.

	Littleborough	Todmorden	Hebden Royd	Hepton R.D.	Sowerby Bridge	Total
Scarlet Fever	2	153	18	5	87	265
Diphtheria	—	1	—	—	12	13
Tonsillitis	3	—	—	—	1	4
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	3
Miscellaneous	2	2	1	1	1	6
TOTALS	2	162	20	6	101	291

### Diphtheria.

Thirteen cases were admitted during the year. Twelve of them were from Sowerby Bridge, the other from Todmorden. Only three of the patients were seriously ill. Fortunately there was no death. Not one of the thirteen had completed the course of immunisation against the disease.

The figures of diphtheria admissions for the past five years are illuminating.

	Completely				
	Admissions.	Immunised.		Deaths.	
1939	...	60	...	—	...
1940	...	20	...	3	...
1941	...	14	...	—	...
1942	...	20	...	2	...
1943	...	13	...	—	...
	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	127	5		10	
	—	—	—	—	—

There have been 127 cases of diphtheria treated in the years 1939-43 inclusive. Of these 10 died. There have been only five cases of diphtheria in immunised persons and in these cases the disease was mild. It is no exaggeration to state that not one of these deaths would have occurred if the patients had been immunised. Unfortunately there are some parents who deny their children the benefits of immunisation against this disease which in the past five years has attacked 127 persons killing ten of them—all this in an area with a very small population.

There is no denying that immunised children can take diphtheria and occasionally in exceptional circumstances may die from it, but experience has shown that the chances of this happening are very remote and the figures given above would indicate *that this is so*.

### Immunisation of Staff.

All new members of the nursing staff were Schick and Dick tested when they first entered the hospital and the positive re-actors were immunised.

**(f) Sourhall Joint Smallpox Hospital.**

The Hospital has 34 beds and there is a resident master and matron. This Hospital is used from time to time for the treatment of evacuees suffering from minor infectious diseases such as scabies and impetigo.

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**SECTION V.****TUBERCULOSIS.****Tuberculosis.**

The tuberculosis service is administered by the County Council. A clinic is held weekly on Friday afternoons at Hall Street. Cases requiring X-ray examination are referred to the appropriate Centre at Sowerby Bridge.

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**SECTION VI.****PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.**

There is an arrangement whereby a child suffering from ophthalmia neonatorum who requires hospital treatment can be admitted along with the mother to Manchester Royal Eye Hospital at a charge of £3 3s. 0d. per week. During 1943 no case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified.

The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis in Todmorden in 1943 :—

	Respiratory			Non-Resp.			Ttls.
	M	F	Ttl.	M	F	Ttl.	
No. on Register on 1st Jan., 1943 ..	20	17	37	32	46	78	115
No. first notified during 1943 ..	6	5	11	6	5	11	22
No. of cases entered in Register other than by notification ..	—	1	1	—	1	1	2
No. removed from Register during 1943 :—							
(a) Died .. ..	2	3	5	1	—	1	6
(b) Removed from district .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
(c) De-notified .. ..	1	2	3	4	2	6	9
No. remaining on Register 31/12/43 ..	23	17	40	33	50	83	123

The number of new cases and the number of deaths notified during 1943 are given in detail in the following table :—

Age Period.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	—
35-45	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45-55	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55-65	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>

## SECTION VII.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

WATER SUPPLY.

HOUSING.

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#### RAINFALL FOR 1943 (SOURHALL).

January ..	7.90 ins.	September ..	6.02 ins.
February ..	3.55 ,,	October ..	3.74 ,,
March ..	1.49 ,,	November ..	5.16 ,,
April ..	3.34 ,,	December ..	4.11 ,,
May ..	3.74 ,,		
June ..	5.15 ,,		54.22
July ..	3.06 ,,		
August ..	6.96 ,,		

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No sewer extensions were carried out during 1943. Certain portions of the district still require sewerage, but in all these parts the cost is prohibitive. All defective sewers are improved as required.

All sewage is treated at the Corporation Sewage Works which are adequate for the needs of the Borough.

There have been no complaints from the West Riding Rivers Board in respect of the effluent from the Sewage Works.

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS

No action has been taken during the year to check the pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following table shows the number of the various types of closets in the Borough :—

With a view to securing the conversion of pail closets and slop closets to water closets the Corporation contribute one-third of the cost of conversion to a maximum of £4 per closet. During 1943 there were six such conversions.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

No changes were made in the methods of collection and disposal of refuse during the year and the service has been maintained and has worked effectively. The collection of refuse, including nightsoil, is done by two motor vehicles, one employed whole time and one on  $4\frac{1}{2}$  days per week, and a weekly collection is carried out. The collection of nightsoil is done by motor vehicle fitted with a movable tank.

The refuse collected is disposed of at Woodhouse Tip where the system of "controlled tipping" is in operation. The salvage comprises the collection and, where necessary, the sorting from refuse, of various materials such as waste paper, scrap metals, textiles, rubber, bones, kitchen waste, bottles and jars, etc. Bins for the reception of bones and

kitchen waste are situated at convenient points in the Borough.

In addition to the normal weekly salvage of these materials a special effort for the recovery of books was made during August and September in connection with a County Book Recovery and Salvage Drive.

The weight of refuse collected by the Corporation during the year was 3164 tons and the cost of collection and disposal was £3900. The income from the sale of salvaged materials, etc., was £1491, giving a nett cost for the collection and disposal of refuse of £2409.

The following are the various items of income from the recovery of the salvage during the year :—

			Tons.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	171	11	30	0
Ferrous metals (including 32 tons baled tins)	...	...	50½	79	10	0
Non-ferrous metals	...	...	1½	30	0	0
Textiles (Rags, carpets, etc.)	...	...	6	63	0	0
Bottles and jars (203 gross)	...	...	12	67	10	0
Waste Food	...	...	54¾	27	10	0
Bones	...	...	8¾	42	0	0
Rubber	...	...	2	5	0	0
 TOTAL	 ...	 ...	 306½	 1444	 10	 0

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Total No. of Inspections made in 1943, for Nuisances only	...	...	...	...	...	245
Nuisances found in 1943	...	...	...	...	...	46
Nuisances in hand, end of 1942	...	...	...	...	...	11
Total needing abatement	...	...	...	...	...	57
Abated during 1943	...	...	...	...	...	51
Outstanding, end of 1943	...	...	...	...	...	6
Notices served, Informal	...	...	...	...	...	18
Complied with	...	...	...	...	...	17
Notices served, Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	3
Complied with	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total number of Summons or other legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	—

## REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, ETC.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District.	No. on Register.	No. of In- spections.	General Conditions	Legal proce- ings if any
Common Lodging Houses ..	1	1	4	Satisfactory	None
Houses let in Lodgings	0	0	0		
Canal Boats ..	0	0	0		
Knackers Yards ..	0	0	0		
Tents, Vans & Sheds	2	0	0		
Offensive Trades—					
2 Tripe Boilers	}				
1 Fat Melter					
6 Dressing Hides for Pickers		9	9	7	Satisfactory
					None

## ERADICATION OF BED BUG.

The belongings of tenants from infested houses are disinfested in the old houses before removal to Council houses. The work of disinfection is carried out by the Local Authority except when hydrogen cyanide is used. In such cases the disinfection is carried out under contract by a private firm and the Hydrogen Cyanide Regulations, 1938, are strictly complied with.

## FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.  
Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power ...	40	None	None
FACTORIES without mechanical power	18	3	None
†OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not in- cluding outworkers' premises) ... ...	None	None	None
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ...	<b>58</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>None</b>
†Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.			

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Pro- secutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	2		
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	None			
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	None			
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	None			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ...	None			
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
insufficient ...	3	None	—	
unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	—	
not separate for sexes ...	None	None	—	
Other offences ...	None	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ...	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>

## SUMMARY OF WORK DONE DURING 1943.

## Inspections of Premises—

1.	For nuisances, etc.	...	...	117
2.	Where infectious disease has occurred	...	...	155
3.	Where offensive trades are carried on	...	...	7
4.	Inspections of Factories	...	...	25
5.	Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	33
6.	Inspections of Cowsheds...	...	...	138
7.	Inspections under Rats and Mice Destruction Act	...	...	94
8.	Inspections of Common Lodging Houses	...	...	4
9.	Inspections of Water Supplies	...	...	10
10.	Inspections of Work in Progress	...	...	120
11.	Inspections under the Housing Act 1936	...	...	6
12.	Re-inspections under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	65
13.	Re-inspections as to compliance with notices	...	...	54
14.	Inspections of houses under Public Health Acts	...	...	74
15.	Inspections under Closet Conversion Scheme	...	...	6
16.	Inspections of premises used for preparation of food for sale	...	...	26
17.	Miscellaneous	...	...	3
			Total Visits...	937

18.	No. of houses disinfected after (1) infectious disease ...	...	...	152
	(2) tuberculosis	...	...	2
19.	Smoke test applied to drains	...	...	3
20.	Samples of Water taken for analysis	...	...	14
21.	Samples of Water taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	47
22.	Samples of milk taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	78
23.	No. of complaints investigated	...	...	116
24.	Cases abated under preliminary notice	...	...	160
25.	Cases abated under statutory notice	...	...	6
26.	Cases dealt with under Closet Conversion Scheme	...	...	5

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT IN COMPLIANCE WITH  
NOTICES, ETC., DURING 1943.

**House Drainage—**

Waste pipes disconnected from house drains	...	4
House drains repaired, cleansed, etc.	...	28
New pipe drains provided	...	9
Drains trapped	...	15
House drains connected to sewer	...	2

**Sanitary Conveniences—**

New water closets provided	...	...	8
Closets repaired, cleansed, etc.	...	...	15
Waste water closets converted into water closets			6
Water closets abolished	...	...	1

**Factories and Bakehouses—**

Sanitary conveniences put into proper repair	...	6
New Sanitary Conveniences provided	...	1
Sanitary conveniences cleansed, limewashed, etc.	...	2
Water Closets abolished	...	2
Bakehouses cleansed, limewashed, etc.	...	1

**Houses dealt with under Housing Act, 1936—**

Houses demolished	...	...	2
Houses rendered fit for habitation (Sects. 11 and 12).	...	...	1
Houses abolished as separate dwellings	...	...	1

**Cowsheds and Dairies—**

Shippon floors relaid or repaired	...	2
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**Miscellaneous—**

No. of condemnations of unsound food	...	76
No. of galvanised iron dust bins provided	...	1
No. of houses cleansed, limewashed, disinfested, etc.	...	10
No. of accumulations of manure, refuse, etc. removed	...	3

## MORTUARY ACCOMMODATION.

For accidents .. .	One Mortuary : two slabs.
For infectious cases, other than at hospitals .. .	None
For other cases	One Emergency A.R.P. Mor- tuary with accommodation for 60 bodies.
Facilities for post-mortem examination ? .. .	Yes.
Mortuary accommodation sufficient ? .. .	Yes.

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

## MILK SUPPLY.

Number of milk cows kept in the district (about)	1000
Number of cow-keepers .. . . .	92
Number of wholesale traders .. . . .	22
Number of retail milk sellers .. . . .	95
Number of cowsheds .. . . .	270
Number of inspections of cowsheds .. . .	138
Number of milk samples taken for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 .. .	—
Number of samples of ordinary milk taken for Methylene Blue Test .. . . .	78

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936-1942 : —

Production of Milk	No. of Licences in force in area	Samples of designated milks examined bacteriologically	
		No. satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tstd	None	—	—
Accredited	2	none exmd.	none exmd.
Pasteurised	None	—	—

No. of Licences in force for bottling "Tuberculin Tested" or "Accredited" Milk, other than at the place of production—0.

## FOOD INSPECTION.

There are 13 private slaughterhouses, all licensed by the Council. Eight of these premises are unsatisfactory as regards structure, position or in other respects. The slaughterhouses were not used for slaughtering as centralised slaughtering continued in operation.

There are 33 bakehouses, one of them underground, and 33 inspections were made.

The unsound food condemned during the year included the following :—10 stones of fish, 23 lbs. of cheese, 5 lbs. butter, 16½ cwt. cabbage, 373 cans of food of various kinds.

## ADULTERATION.

No samples of food and drugs were taken for analysis during the year. The West Riding County Council is the Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

## Water Supplies.

### (a) CORPORATION SUPPLY.

5083 houses are supplied with water from the Corporation supply. The water is from upland surfaces and is naturally soft and of an acid character. The water is treated by slow filtration through sand and lime dust and also by chlorination.

Routine samples of the water before and after treatment were taken for bacteriological examination and for chemical analysis. The results of these examinations showed that the treated water is of a highly satisfactory quality according to the standards of the Ministry of Health.

### (b) PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

1823 houses are supplied with water from private sources derived mainly from springs, the water generally being conveyed to storage chambers from which it is piped to the houses. Samples from a number of these supplies were taken for bacteriological examination and inspections made of the gathering grounds and cisterns.

## Housing.

Owing to the continued War conditions no action was taken with respect to new Clearance Areas. In the Shade Clearance Area 17 of the 41 houses were still occupied at the end of the year, two houses were demolished, and the greater part of a former common lodging house in the area was also demolished. In accordance with instructions the demolition of houses vacated under Clearance or Demolition Orders has not been required.

The works required by an undertaking previously given by the owners were completed whereby two "back-to-back" houses were converted into a "through" house and the house reconditioned in the process.

Forty-seven houses were inspected under the Public Health Acts as to the presence of insect pests of various kinds. Remedial measures were taken where necessary and advice given in other cases. Twenty-seven houses were inspected where the tenants had made application for Council houses.

BOROUGH OF TODMORDEN  
ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
School Medical Officer  
1943

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ABRAHAM ORMEROD MEDICAL CENTRE,  
TODMORDEN,

*August, 1944.*

*To the Chairman and Members of  
the Local Education Authority.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the year 1943.

Examination showed that the nutrition and general condition of the school children was well maintained throughout the year. The clean condition of the children generally is a matter for congratulation.

In conclusion I would like to thank all those who have assisted in the work, the Education Committee, Director of Education, Head Teachers and particularly my staff whose help has been invaluable.

Yours faithfully,

A. J. MUIR,

*School Medical Officer*

**(1) STAFF.**

Miss D. Mallison, School Nurse, resigned in August. She was replaced by Nurse Hurley who resigned for domestic reasons after serving a period of only five weeks.

**(2) SCHOOL HYGIENE**

Number of Schools	...	...	...	...	...	14
Number of Departments	...	...	...	...	...	18
Number of School Places	...	...	...	...	...	3874
Average number of children on Register—						
Todmorden Children	...	...	...	...	...	1884
Evacuees	...	...	...	...	...	71
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1955
Average in attendance—						
Todmorden children	...	...	...	...	...	1601
Evacuees	...	...	...	...	...	64
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1665

**STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS.**

Dry rot repairs have been carried out at Roomfield old clinic, new boilers have been installed at Todmorden Church of England School and St. Joseph's R.C. School, and an alteration has been made to the slope at the east end of Castle Hill Council School.

**DECORATIONS.**

Lumbutts Council School, Robinwood Council School and Walsden Council School have been painted internally and part externally, Vale Council School externally and part internally and Roomfield Council School ground floor internally.

**REPAIRS.**

Repairs to the walling were carried out in the grounds of Stile Open Air School and the playground at Walsden Council School was re-surfaced.

## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

Replacement of conveniences at Roomfield Council School was carried out.

Walsden Church of England School was equipped with nursery furniture.

## (3) MEDICAL INSPECTION.

As in previous years the children who were medically examined fell into the three statutory age groups: (1) Entrants, (2) Intermediates (8 years old children), and (3) Leavers (12 years old children). Of the 612 children examined, 382 (62.4 per cent.) were accompanied by their parents.

## (4) FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The findings of the routine medical inspections are given in Tables I and II at the end of this Report.

(a) **Nutrition.**—The nutritional state of the children is shown in the following table—the classification being in accordance with the recommendations of the Board of Education.

Excellent	Normal	Slightly Sub-Normal
102 (16.7%)	476 (77.8%)	34 (5.5%)

(b) **Uncleanliness.**—Three cleanliness surveys of all the schools in the Borough were undertaken during the year by the School Nurses. Some 191 children were found to be unclean and 34 were cleansed at the Clinic. No legal proceedings were taken with respect to any of these cases.

The percentages of children found with nits or lice during the past ten years are given in the following table :—

Todmorden									
1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
8·3	7·0	5·7	4·2	3·4	3·8	2·8	4·0	2·6	3·8

\*Includes evacuees.

EXAMINED.	UNCLEAN	CLEAN
4923	233	4690

(c) **Minor Ailments.**—The school clinic is open daily for the treatment of Minor Ailments.

(d) **Visual Defects and External Eye Disease.**—50 cases of defective vision and 14 cases of squint requiring treatment were discovered at Routine Medical Inspection.

(e) **Nose and Throat Defects.**—It was found necessary at Routine Medical Inspection to keep 11 cases of enlarged tonsils and/or adenoids under observation.

(f) **Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.**—During Auroscopic examination at Routine Medical Inspection 25 cases of cerumen and 1 case of otitis media were found and referred to the clinic for treatment.

(g) **Dental Defects.**—The work of the Dental Department is summarised in Table V.

(h) **Heart Disease and Rheumatism.**—No case of rheumatic heart disease was found during Routine Medical Inspection. Two cases of organic heart defect are being kept under observation.

(i) **Tuberculosis.**—No case of tuberculosis was discovered at routine inspection.

## (5) FOLLOWING UP.

The following table shows the number of visits made by the Nurses during the year to ensure that adequate treatment is being obtained for defects found at inspections.

				1943
Number of children followed up by nurses ...	...	...	...	291
Visits to homes by nurses ...	...	...	...	280
Visits to schools by nurses ...	...	...	...	145
Infectious Disease enquiries (home)	...	...	...	41
,,          ,,          ,,          (school)	...	...	...	50

## (6) ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

The time and place of the various Clinics are as described in previous reports.

The war caused no alteration in the arrangements made for the various forms of treatment or the provision of solid meals or milk.

(a) **Nutrition.**—Children of subnormal nutrition are recommended for a free supply of milk in school and also for free meals if the family is necessitous. 94 Undernourished children received free milk, 50 received free meals.

(b) **Uncleanliness:**—The standard of cleanliness in Todmorden is very high—there are however a few chronic offenders. At the beginning of the year an attempt was made to cleanse such chronic cases with Semprolia (lethane oil). This was of undoubted value and at subsequent inspections at school children who had been clean only on very rare occasions were found free from nits and vermin. Alas the parents became weary of well-doing and neglected to apply the oil with the result that the verminous condition was allowed to relapse. There is no doubt in my mind as to the efficiency of the preparation, but it should be used only in chronic offenders who have neglected to use the steel comb which after all should have prior place in the war against the head louse.

During 1943, 34 children were cleansed at the Clinic.

(c) **Minor Ailments Clinic.**—The following table gives the various conditions treated at the Clinic and the number of attendances made.

Year	No. of Attendances	No. of Consultations	School Population
1943	3258	1078	1955

During 1943 the Clinic was open on 248 occasions and the average attendance was 13.1.

Arrangements are in force with the Manchester and Salford Skin Hospital for the X-Ray treatment of ringworm of the scalp, but no case requiring such treatment was found during the year.

(d) **Scabies.**—This condition was again prevalent during the year and 111 children were treated at the Clinic. Benzyl Benzoate was used in every case.

(e) **Visual Defects and External Eye Disease.** During the year the Ophthalmic Surgeon paid 11 visits and refracted 81 children.

Spectacles were supplied to children according to Dr. Greatorex's prescription by Mr. H. Hartley, of Todmorden, who also carried out repairs to spectacles already provided.

Some 21 cases of external eye disease were treated at the Authority's Minor Ailments Clinic.

### **ORTHOPTIC CLINIC.**

Miss M. L. Harris held a clinic of three hours duration twice weekly. Each child under treatment attended 15 minutes on the average. The following table gives the details of the work done.

Number of children attended during the year ...	28
Total attendances for the year ...	755
<i>of which—</i>	
Attendances for Binocular Training ...	662
Attendances for Occlusion ...	89
New cases examined and registered ...	4
	—
	755
 Cases discharged throughout the year ...	
<i>of which—</i>	
Cases cured ...	7
Cases who failed to attend ...	3
Cases left the district ...	2
	—
	12
Waiting List ...	nil.

There was no case for operation in the year. The attendance has been most regular.

(f) **Nose and Throat Defects.**—Tonsil and adenoid cases are sent to Burnley Municipal Hospital for treatment. During 1943 thirty-five cases were treated under the council's scheme. 17 of the 35 were sent by local practitioners because of the great difficulty in securing treatment elsewhere.

(g) **Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.**—Some 13 cases of suppurative otitis media made 127 attendances at the Minor Ailments Clinic. In addition to the children who were sent to the Clinic for refraction 6 children were sent for consultations with Dr. Greatorex on account of various ear and eye conditions.

(h) **Dental Treatment.**—Five sessions per week are devoted to the inspection and treatment of school children. There has been an increase in the number of permanent teeth extracted, but this is in large part due to a great in-

crease in the number extracted for orthodontic reasons. It is no advertisement for a school dental service to allow children to leave school with irregular dentitions. Besides being more difficult to clean and consequently being more prone to caries, irregular teeth are no outset to the children concerned.

No. of times inspected	School	No. inspected	With Sound Teeth	Percentage	No. requiring Treatment	No. Giving Consent	Percentage
4	*Roomfield Infants ...	489	326	66·6	163	97	59·5
4	*Roomfield Juniors	385	268	69·6	115	71	61·7
4	*Roomfield Seniors ...	569	411	72·2	158	99	62·6
3	*Open Air School ...	165	118	71·5	47	45	95·7
3	*Walsden C. of E. ...	155	104	67·0	51	31	60·8
2	*Lumbutts ... ...	26	16	61·5	10	8	80·0
3	*Eastwood ... ...	185	118	63·7	67	49	73·7
3	*Castle Hill ... ...	481	319	66·3	162	88	54·3
2	*Cloughfoot ... ...	28	14	50·0	14	7	50·0
3	*Walsden Council ...	385	254	65·9	131	77	58·7
3	*Todmorden C. of E. ....	716	442	61·7	274	151	55·1
3	*Shade ... ...	586	410	69·9	176	89	50·5
2	†Cornholme ... ...	340	185	54·4	155	103	66·4
2	†Vale ... ...	121	62	51·2	59	40	67·8
2	†Robinwood ... ...	119	63	52·9	56	43	76·78
2	†St. Joseph's R.C. ...	207	109	52·1	98	57	58·1
2	†Secondary ... ...	587	278	47·3	309	134	43·3

\* Dental Surgeon—Mr. Gibson.      † Dental Surgeon—Mr. Jackson.

Amount of work done for each 100 children treated	1943		Todmorden						England and Wales (Last available figs)
	Mr. Gibson	Mr. Jackson	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	
Fillings in permanent teeth ...	39	123	44	58	64	65	67	68	78
Fillings in temporary teeth ...	29	—	23	28	30	25	22	19	7
Extractions of permanent teeth	18	74	23	24	27	26	21	37	37
Extractions of temporary teeth	139	41	112	105	100	128	141	130	152

The following table is a record of the work done by individual dental surgeons :—

	Mr. Gibson.	Mr. Jackson.	Total.
Fillings in permanent teeth ...	...   ...   ...   ...	284	475
Fillings in temporary teeth ...	...   ...   ...   ...	214	1
Extractions of permanent teeth	.....   .....	128 (R28)	287 (R225)
Extractions of temporary teeth	...   ...   ...   ...	1011 (R58)	447 (R 34)
General anaesthetics	...   ...   ...   ...	227	158
			385

R—Extractions performed for orthodontic purposes.

MR. GIBSON—3 Sessions weekly.

MR. JACKSON—2 Sessions weekly.

(i) **General Anaesthesia.**—Gas and oxygen is given by the School Medical Officer, the apparatus used being the McKesson. 385 children had extractions under gas.

(j) **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.**—Three school children were in the Bamford Memorial Home during the year. One of these had Rheumatoid Arthritis, one was admitted to be fitted with an appliance, whilst the third had an operation for hammer-toe. Some five school children made eight attendances at the Rochdale Orthopaedic Clinic for minor orthopaedic defects.

(k) **Heart Disease and Rheumatism.**—There is no special clinic for the examination and treatment of heart and rheumatic cases.

(l) **Tuberculosis.**—The appropriate Authority for the treatment of Tuberculosis is the West Riding County Council. There is co-operation between the County Tuberculosis Officer and your School Medical Officer in securing Artificial Light Treatment at the Medical Centre for cases of glandular tuberculosis. The Open Air School is made available for such cases if the Tuberculosis Officer suggests it.

(m) **Artificial Light Clinic.**—During 1943 some 37 school children made 707 attendances for treatment. The Clinic was held twice weekly during the winter months.

(n) **Diphtheria Immunisation.**—A full report is given in the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health. It is sufficient to say here that clinics were held at the various schools throughout the year and that great assistance was given by the Headmasters in providing every facility for obtaining parental consent for immunisation. Out of 612 children examined at School 539 (88 %) had been immunised.

## (8) INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Where the attendance at a school falls below 60 per cent., and is, in the opinion of the School Medical Officer, directly due to the prevalence of infectious disease the school sessions so affected are not counted in estimating the average attendance for the purpose of grant. During 1943 no certificate was issued for this purpose.

## (9) OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

OPEN-AIR CLASSROOMS.—None provided.

PLAYGROUND CLASSES.—None provided.

## (10) PHYSICAL TRAINING.

I give below the Report of Miss Glen, Physical Training Organiser.

During the year visits have been paid to all schools in the Borough. The standard of physical training is considered to be satisfactory on the whole. War-time conditions make it difficult to maintain the former supply of plimsols and small apparatus, such as rubber balls, which are considered essential for the subject. A very creditable effort is being made in some schools to keep the children supplied with suitable footwear.

In the infant and junior departments the work continues to follow the lines set out in the syllabus of the Board of Education (1933 edition); the work for senior boys and girls presents more difficulties. In order to cater for the rapid mental and physical development of this age it is necessary to give more specialised work. A minimum of gymnastic apparatus, such as vaulting box and balance benches, is considered essential, and a teacher with some training in this advanced work. Where these facilities exist some promising work is being done. It is urged that so far as it is possible in these difficult times, these facilities should be extended to cater for all boys and girls over ten years of age.

**Swimming.**—It will no doubt be readily agreed that the aim in this subject should be to make it possible for every boy and girl who is physically capable to receive adequate instruction in swimming during their school life. As an experiment a short course for teachers responsible for taking children to the baths was held in the spring. Those teachers who were able to attend showed keenness and interest, but it is considered that such specialised tuition should be given in the main by a fully qualified person, supplemented where necessary by a teacher. A recommendation to this effect has already been submitted.

## (II) PROVISION OF MEALS.

Local Authorities have power under the Education Act to provide meals to children who are unable by lack of proper food to avail themselves of the educational facilities afforded to them.

In Todmorden all the schools with the exception of National and Lumbutts have been equipped as School Cafeterias. The Medical Centre is used by the National School as a Canteen.

During the year 50 children were provided with 5060 free dinners and 1320 other children were provided with 161,647 dinners (not free).

**Supply of Milk for Schools.**—76.2% of the children in average attendance took advantage of the scheme for obtaining milk at a charge of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 1/3rd of a pint.

94 children were supplied with 2/3 pints daily on medical grounds.

## (12) CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY BODIES.

Teachers in all departments have co-operated well with the School Medical Officer and School Nurses and the help given by Head Teachers was much appreciated.

During the year, parents have shown a keen interest in the work done, 62.4 per cent. of the children examined at Routine Medical Inspections were accompanied by their parents.

## (13) BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

Two deaf boys are attending a Residential School for the deaf in Preston.

### **OPEN AIR SCHOOL.**

The number of admissions and discharges are shown in the following table. Children recommended for the Open Air School are admitted at the beginning of the terms, places being made for them by the discharge of those who have improved after a prolonged stay. The school is appreciated by the children and their parents. The majority of the scholars improve greatly after a period at Stile, such improvement being due in large measure to the ordered routine, rest periods, good food, sunshine and fresh air which these pupils enjoy during their stay.

### **(14) FULL-TIME COURSES OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC STUDENTS.**

The Local Education Authority does not maintain any courses of training for such students.

### **(15) NURSERY SCHOOLS.**

There are no Nursery Schools in the Borough, but there are Nursery Classes at Roomfield and Shade Council Schools.

### **(16) THE SECONDARY SCHOOL.**

The School Medical Inspection is under the jurisdiction of the West Riding County Council.

At the request of the County Council 29 candidates successful at the County Minor Scholarship Examination and 24 Fee payers were medically examined before admission to the Todmorden Secondary School.

The following defects were found to require treatment:—Undernourished—2, Defective vision—4, Squint—1, Bronchitis—1, Alopecia—1, Cerumen—4, Orthodontic treatment—2, Dental Caries—8. Six cases of dental caries, one case of defective vision and four cases of cerumen were treated at the school clinic shortly after examination.

	On Roll 1st Jan.	Admitted during year	Discharged during year			Left Dist.	On Roll 31st Dec.
			Cured	Improved	Full Time Leavers		
1942 ...	52	21	10	5	2	—	56
1943 ...	56	23	15	8	4	1	51

No. of children awaiting admission to the school after the Christmas Holiday ..... 9

The dental treatment of the Secondary School children is carried out by Mr. Jackson in the school clinic. This service was extended to the Secondary School children in 1939, prior to which there had been no facilities for dental treatment at the Secondary School. It is interesting to note that in 1939 the percentage of children with sound teeth was 5.9. Last year, after five years treatment, the percentage of children with sound teeth had risen to 47.3, and this figure would be much higher if parents took advantage of the dental facilities afforded. In a recent inspection at the school out of 156 children found not to require treatment no fewer than 138 were regular attenders at the clinic. It is astonishing that the consent rate for dental treatment at the Secondary School is the lowest in the town. There are probably two reasons for this. The first is that many parents do not insist on their children attending a dentist as they have in large measure passed out of their control. The other reason is that there are some parents who think that to attend the School Dental Clinic is *infra dig* as it exists only to provide dental treatment for the poor and needy. Treatment at the school Dental Clinic is not a charity but is a service to which every ratepayer is entitled by virtue of payment of the education rate.

The following table gives details of the work done in connection with the dental treatment of the pupils at Todmorden Secondary School.

AGE (years)	No. of Children Inspected	No. offered Treatm't	No. Acc'p'g Tr'tm't	No. Refus'g Tr'tm't	No. Art'f'ly Sound
10	8	6	4	2	2
11	74	44	26	18	30
12	118	54	28	26	64
13	109	62	23	39	47
14	80	42	17	25	38
15	96	46	20	26	50
16	47	28	8	20	19
17	32	16	4	12	16
18	6	4	1	3	2
Total ...	570	302	131	171	268

Number actually Treated—129. Number of Attendances—327  
 Half-days devoted to Inspection, 4.  
 Half-days devoted to Treatment, 36.

Total ... 40.

Fillings : Permanent	326.	Extractions : Permanent	*166.
Temporary —		Temporary	78.

\* 129 for regulation purposes.

Local Anaesthetic cases, 32.

General Anaesthetics cases, 67.

Other operations, permanent teeth, 14.

Dentures supplied, — Regulation Appliance, 1

**Payment for Dental Treatment.**—Secondary School children, on the payment of one shilling, are entitled to treatment for one year. This includes fillings, extractions, (with gas if necessary) scaling, in fact everything except the provision of orthodontic plates and dentures, which appliances have to be paid for at cost price.

## (17) PARENTS' PAYMENTS.

The arrangements for recovering the cost of treatment of children attending Public Elementary Schools are as follows:—

**Treatment of Minor Ailments, Diphtheria Immunisation, Artificial Sun-Light Treatment.**—No charge.

**X-Ray Treatment of Ringworm of the Scalp.**—There is a charge of £1-1-0 for this treatment. Necessitous cases are considered by the School Attendance and Medical Inspection Sub-Committee.

**Dental Treatment.**—There is a nominal charge of 3d. per patient. No charge is made for Dental X-Ray examination. Dentures and Orthodontic Appliances are supplied, where necessary, at cost price, the parents being required to contribute according to the family income. The income scale is similar to the scale adopted for the provision of spectacles in necessitous cases, suitably extended by charging 2/- for each additional 5/- of weekly income, to cover the higher maximum cost price of such appliances.

**Ophthalmic Services.**—Orthoptic treatment, refraction and the prescription of spectacles is carried out free of charge. In necessitous cases, nickel framed spectacles may be obtained at a reduced rate. Where the parent selects other than nickel frames the actual cost price is charged.

Some 74 children received spectacles under the authority's scheme.

**Tonsils and Adenoids.**—The charge for the operation is £1-11-6. Parents' contributions toward the cost of the operation are based on an income scale. Where one or both parents contribute to the local Hospital Fund, vouchers may be obtained from the District Nursing Association, to cover all or part of the cost of the operation.

Thirty-five cases received operative treatment during 1943 and of these 7 were free, 8 paid whole fee and 20 were covered by vouchers.

## (18) HEALTH EDUCATION.

A simple form of Biology is taught in some of the Senior Schools and the principles of personal and domestic hygiene are taught to the girls attending courses in Domestic Science.

## (19) MISCELLANEOUS.

(a) **Part-time Employment of School Children.**—Newspaper delivery is the usual form of employment of children. In accordance with the bye-laws of the Education Authority ten applicants of school age submitted themselves for examination prior to employment and a certificate was given in each case.

(b) **Stammering and other Speech Defects.**—Thirty children with defects of speech are being kept under observation.

Towards the end of the year arrangements were being made for the provision of facilities for speech training. It is intended that a room at the Medical Centre be used as a Speech Clinic.

(c) **Child Guidance.** There are no cases at present attending school who might benefit from attendance at a child guidance clinic.

(d) **Mental Deficiency.**—During 1943 some 4 children were specially examined. These 4 children were classified as dull and backward.

There are, as yet, no special facilities in Todmorden for the education of mentally defective children.

(e) **Conveyance of Physically Defective Children to and from the Open Air School.**—At its meeting on May 24th, 1939, the Authority agreed to provide travelling facilities for physically defective children attending the Open Air School. During the year four children were conveyed to school by taxi.

(f) **The National Health Insurance (Juvenile Contributors and Young Persons) Act, 1938.**—Section 6 of this Act made it the duty of a Local Education Authority to furnish, on the application of a medical practitioner, or of the Insurance Committee on his behalf, confidential information as to the school medical record of any young person whom he undertook to treat. No application was received during 1943.

## (20) STATISTICAL TABLES.

The Statistical Tables required by the Board of Education are submitted herewith.

### TABLE I. RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

#### A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups					
Entrants	...	...	...	...	264
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	191
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	135
Total	...	...	...	...	590
Number of other Routine Inspections	...	...	...	...	22
Grand Total	...	...	...	...	612

**B.—Other Inspections.**

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	894
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	494
Total	...	...	1388

**C.—Children found to require treatment.**

Number of individual children found at Routine Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

Group (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For all other conditions recorded in Table II A (3)	Total (4)
ENTRANTS... ...	1	31	30
SECOND AGE GROUP ...	21	28	47
THIRD AGE GROUP ...	25	18	40
<b>TOTAL</b> (Prescribed Groups) ...	47	77	117
OTHER ROUTINE INSPECTIONS ...	2	3	4
<b>GRAND TOTAL ...</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>121</b>

**TABLE. II.—A**  
**RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION**  
**IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1943.**

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS		SPECIALS	
	Requiring treatment.	No. requiring to be kept under observation, but not for treatment.	Requiring treatment.	No. requiring to be kept under observation but not for treatment,
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<b>SKIN</b> —Ringworm—Scalp.....	—	—	—	—
Ringworm—Body .....	—	—	—	—
Scabies .....	9	—	102	—
Impetigo .....	1	—	34	—
Other Diseases: (Non-Tuber.)	8	—	107	—
<b>EYE</b> —Blepharitis .....	4	—	5	—
Conjunctivitis .....	—	—	7	—
Keratitis .....	—	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities .....	—	—	—	—
Defective Vision: (Ex.Squint)	50	6	24	6
Squint .....	14	—	5	—
Other Conditions .....	2	—	9	1
<b>EAR</b> —Defective Hearing .....	—	1	—	—
Otitis Media.....	1	—	13	—
Other Ear Diseases .....	25	—	27	—
<b>NOSE AND THROAT</b> —				
Chronic Tonsilitis only .....	1	9	—	4
Adenoids only .....	—	—	—	1
Chronic Tonsilitis and Adenoids	1	2	19	—
Other Conditions .....	1	—	24	—
<b>ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS:</b> (Non-Tuberculous) .....	—	—	1	1
<b>DEFECTIVE SPEECH</b> .....	1	3	—	—
<b>HEART AND CIRCULATION</b> :				
Heart Disease :				
Organic .....	—	1	—	—
Functional .....	—	—	—	—
Anaemia .....	—	—	—	—
<b>LUNGS</b> —				
Bronchitis .....	—	2	4	—
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	—	2	—	—
<b>TUBERCULOSIS—NON-PULMONARY</b> —				
Glands.....	—	—	—	—
Bones and Joints.....	—	—	—	—
Skin.....	—	—	—	—
Other Forms .....	—	—	—	—
<b>TUBERCULOSIS—PULMONARY</b> —				
Definite .....	—	—	—	—
Suspected .....	—	—	—	—
<b>NERVOUS SYSTEM</b> —				
Epilepsy .....	—	—	—	—
Chorea.....	—	—	—	—
Other Conditions .....	—	—	—	—
<b>DEFORMITIES</b> —				
Rickets .....	—	—	—	—
Spinal Curvature .....	—	—	—	—
Other Forms .....	3	—	—	—
<b>OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES</b> (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)	8	7	445	1
<b>Total</b> .....	129	33	826	14

TABLE II.—

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR  
IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Age-groups	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ... ...	264	44	16.6	211	80.0	9	3.4	—	—
Second Age-group ...	191	26	13.6	156	81.7	9	4.7	—	—
Third Age-group ...	135	23	17.0	97	71.9	15	11.1	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	22	9	41.0	12	54.5	1	4.5	—	—
Total ...	612	102	16.7	476	77.8	34	5.5	—	—

**TABLE III.—RETURN OF BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN  
(including Evacuees) RESIDENT IN THE AUTHORITY'S  
AREA.**

**BLIND CHILDREN.**

Only Children who are totally, or almost totally, blind and can only be appropriately taught in a school for blind children are included.

Age	At a Public Elementary School	At another Institution	At no School or Institution
—	—	—	—

**DEAF CHILDREN.**

Only Children whose hearing is so defective and whose speech and language are so little developed that they require education by methods used by deaf children without naturally acquired speech or language are included.

Age	At a Public Elementary School	At another Institution	At no School or Institution
13	—	1	—
8	—	1	—

**TABLE IV.**

**RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR  
ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1943.  
TREATMENT TABLE.**

**GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding uncleanliness  
for which see Table VI.)**

DISEASE OR DEFECT (1)	No. of Defects Treated or under Treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
<i>Skin—</i>			
Ringworm—Scalp— (i) X-Ray Treatment. ...	—	—	—
(ii) Other Treatment ...	—	—	—
Ringworm—Body ...	—	—	—
Scabies ... ... ...	111	—	111
Impetigo ... ... ...	34	—	34
Other skin Disease ... ...	98	—	98
<i>Minor Eye Defects— (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II)</i>			
	21	—	21
<i>Minor Ear Defects— (Treatment for more serious diseases of the ear (e.g., operative treatment in hospital) should not be recorded here but in the body of the School Medical Officer's Annual Report</i>			
	41	—	41
<i>Miscellaneous— (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)</i>			
... ... ...	481	3	484
Total ... ... ...	786	3	789

**TABLE IV.—Cont.**

**GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding  
Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group 1.)**

DEFECT OR DISEASE	No. of Defects dealt with		Total
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ...	81	2	83
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ... ...	—	—	—
Total ... ...	81	2	83
No. of Children for whom Spectacles were (a) Prescribed ...	76	2	78
(b) Obtained ...	74	2	76

**TABLE IV.—Cont.****GROUP III. TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.****NUMBER OF DEFECTS**

Received Operative Treatment															
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital (1)		By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)		Total (3)		Received other forms of Treatment (4)		Total number treated (5)							
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	—	—	—	40
—	—	35	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	40	—	—	—	40

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and Adenoids. (iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

**GROUP IV.  
ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.**

Number of children treated.	Under the Authority's Scheme (1)			Otherwise (2)			Total number treated
	Residential treatment with education. (i)	Residential treatment without education. (ii)	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic. (iii)	Residential treatment with education. (i)	Residential treatment without education. (ii)	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic. (iii)	
	2	1	5	—	—	—	8

**TABLE V.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.**

## 1. Number of children who were :—

## (a) Inspected by the Dentist, aged :—

## Routine Age Groups.

4 years .....	258	10 years .....	482
5 years .....	406	11 years .....	484
6 years .....	524	12 years .....	430
7 years .....	540	13 years .....	409
8 years .....	534	14 years .....	247
9 years .....	506		
	Total .....	4820	
	Specials .....	136	

Grand Total ..... 4956

2. Number found to require treatment ... ... 1745

3. Number actually treated ... ... 981

**TABLE V.—Cont.**

4. Attendances made by children for treatment—	1148
5. Half-days devoted to Inspection, 40. Treatment, 115.	Total, 155
	Total.
6. Fillings—Permanent Teeth	... 433
Temporary Teeth	... 215 — 648
7. Extractions — Permanent Teeth	... 249
	*R124
Temporary Teeth	... 1380 — 1629
	*R92
8. Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions—	318
9. Other Operations—	
Permanent Teeth	... 208
Temporary Teeth	... nil. — 208

\* Extracted for Orthodontic purposes.

**TABLE VI.****UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.**

Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses—3.

Total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses—4923.

Number of individual children found unclean—191.

Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921—34.

No legal proceedings were taken.



